

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please replace abstract on page 35 with the following amended paragraph:

Described are multilayer optical composites ~~comprising~~ including a first layer having an index of refraction n_1 , an i^{th} layer having an index of refraction n_i greater than n_1 , and one or two or more intermediate layers between the first layer and the i^{th} layer, wherein the indices of refraction of the intermediate layers are between n_1 and n_i , and the index of refraction of each intermediate layer increases in the order of position of each layer from the first layer.